



H.R. 2297 – Arizona National Scenic Trail Act

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 2297 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ) on May 14, 2008. The bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, but was never considered.

H.R. 2297 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on September 26, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.R. 2297 designates the Arizona Trail, extending approximately 807 miles across Arizona from the border between Arizona and Utah to the international border with Mexico, as the "Arizona National Scenic Trail." The trail will be administered by the Forest Service, in consultation with other Federal, State, and local agencies.

BACKGROUND

The Arizona Trail is a non-motorized path which passes through mountains, canyons, deserts, and forests in southeastern Arizona. It is the longest land trail in the state, and is popular among bicyclists, nature enthusiasts, hikers, and cross-country skiers. The Arizona Trail begins at the Coronado National Memorial near the U.S.-Mexico border and extends north to the Grand Canyon.

The National Trails System Act (P.L. 90-543) created the National Trails System (NTS) in 1968. Trails included in this system are intended to promote the preservation of, public access to, travel within, and enjoyment and appreciation of outdoor areas and historic resources of the United States. NTS trails are administered by various agencies of the Department of the Interior.

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has not produced a cost estimate for H.R. 2297 as of September 26, 2008.

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Adam Hepburn at 6-2302.